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appear to have had much hope of passing. Most of them were not worthy of serious attention and hardly any of them seem to have exercised any influence on legislation subsequent to 1850. The truth of the matter is that the legislative history of our railways down to 1850 is written not in congressional documents but in the proceedings of our state legislatures.

Had the material contained in this monograph been greatly condensed it would have served as a valuable introduction to the *real* congressional history of railways which properly begins in 1850—where this essay leaves off. Dr. Haney's second volume will doubtless be equally well done and will contain material of greater intrinsic value to economists and historians.

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English Society in the Eleventh Century: Essays in English Mediaeval History. By PAUL VINOGRADOFF. Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1908. Pp. xii+599.

This book is a welcome addition to the studies on Domesday Book which have appeared in recent years. The purpose of the writer, as indicated in the preface, is to give a view of English society as it is recorded in the "Great Survey," using earlier and later facts only so far as they throw light on the material contained in the central source. The book is encyclopedic and terminological in character. The first of the two essays into which the work is divided treats of the action of political forces on society in the three aspects of "Military Organization," "Jurisdiction," and "Taxation." In the second essay the economic factors and the ranks of society are considered under the headings, "Land Tenure," "Rural Organization," and "Social Classes."

The general results of Professor Vinogradoff's investigations tend to strengthen the view presented in his earlier works (*Villainage in England* and *The Growth of the Manor*), that beyond Domesday there had been an England of free villages. Of especial interest in this connection is the emphasis placed upon the differences in the institutional development of the North and South of England. The institutions of the Danelaw represent Anglo-Saxon conditions of earlier centuries, a theme which is worked out to suggestive conclusions. Good examples of the method are furnished by the sections on military and judicial organization. In the eleventh century the *here* was still composed of the small freemen, but service in the *fyrd*, except when for the defense of the home counties, was attached to land-holding, and one warrior from five hides seems to have been the general practice. This distinction is important because of its bearing on the question of knights' fees. In the Danelaw with its small estates the feudal institutions of the Norman conquerors found an uncongenial soil, and the knights' fees were consequently large and irregular, but the large, compact estates of the South lent themselves to more systematic apportionment of military service, and Professor Vinogradoff believes, contrary to the views of Round and Maitland, that here there existed normal knights' fees. These were the large fee of about five hides and the small, or Mortain, fee of two or three hides, representing respectively the service of a heavy- and a light-armed knight. Another significant difference between North and South is found in the organization of private jurisdiction. In the South the soke is

usually joined with other manorial franchises, while in the Danish district it is a separate institution, and the greater part of the population under soke are economically independent. This would seem to indicate that the soke had been a powerful agency in reducing freemen to a servile position.

The section on taxation, which deals with the assessment and collection of the geld, is mainly occupied with the definition of the technical terms used to express land measures and values. But the agency of the geld in driving men down in the social scale is not to be overlooked. The use of the term "inland" to designate portions of an estate exempt from the geld points to a time when the incidence of the tax had fallen on the laboring classes. It is also noteworthy that the collection of the geld, "originally effected by the townships themselves, gets to be more and more dependent on the action of the manorial lords."

The second essay is so largely terminological in nature that it is impossible to indicate its contents within the limits of this notice. But some of the more significant conclusions with regard to the manor may be noted. The *manerium* of Domesday cannot be adequately explained either as an economic organization or as a unit for the assessment of the geld. On the contrary, there are no less than five types of manors: the capitalistic, "an economic centre surrounded by peasant-holdings supporting it;" the administrative, composed of "scattered and more or less independent settlements;" the jurisdictional, a center of a soke; royal manors, which may belong to one of the three preceding types, but are characterized by the peculiar legal and economic conditions of the tenants: "small estates exploited directly either by their masters or by rustics." Manors of the first type are the most numerous, but the existence of the other classes goes far to explain how many freemen had been reduced to economic dependence.

Professor Vinogradoff's most distinct contribution is the method of studying Domesday with proper regard for sectional differences. The conclusions arrived at may not always be accepted without question. It may be doubted, for example, if he has even yet succeeded in fastening communalism to the township. The somewhat elaborate, but nevertheless inadequate, treatment of the methods of land settlement is disappointing. But as a whole the book contains illuminating results, and its method can be followed with profit by other students of Domesday.

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L'Expansion allemande hors d'Europe. Par M. ERNEST TONNELAT. Paris: Librairie Armand Colin, 1908. 8vo, pp. xi+277.

If we are to believe the conclusions of this writer the prospects for extending German influence outside of Europe are anything but bright. The large German element in the United States and Brazil, among whom he has been, may look to Germany as a mother, but they have definitely cast their lot with and given their allegiance to the country of their adoption. The success of Japan is declared to have checkmated Germany's plans in China, while the colony in South Africa is only maintained by force of arms and at an enormous cost.